

Remarks

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection and rejections set forth in the above-mentioned Official Action in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks are respectfully requested.

Claim 27 is now the sole claim pending in the application. Claims 1-26 and 28-30 have been cancelled without prejudice.

Applicants note with appreciation the indication that Claim 27 recites allowable subject matter. This claim was objected to for being dependent upon a rejected base claim. The remaining claims were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103. Without conceding the propriety of these rejections and solely to expedite allowance, the rejected claims have been cancelled without prejudice and Claim 27 has been rewritten in independent form.

Applicants submit that the present application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration, withdrawal of the objection and rejections set forth in the above-noted Office Action, and an early Notice of Allowability are requested.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark A. Williamson', written over a horizontal line.

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